

Remarks:

The amendments to the claims

The amendments merely remove multiple dependencies and do not otherwise affect the
5 scope of the claims. As would be expected from the nature of the amendments, the
amended claims are fully supported by the Specification as originally filed

Patentability of the claims over the references cited in the International Search Report:

Applicant filed a Chapter II Demand on 4 August 2003 and received a Written Opinion
10 mailed on 3 March 2004. In his Written Opinion, Examiner found that claims 4, 5, 7-9,
12-18 met the requirements of PCT Article 33(2-4) but that claims 1-3, 6, 10, and 11
were anticipated by Schröder, et al., "Data parallel volume rendering as lie drawing",
1992Workshop on Volume Visulaization/10/92, ACM, 1992 (henceforth "Schröder").
Applicant responded to the Written Opinion by traversing the rejections. Applicant has
15 not yet received the International Preliminary Examination Report.

Conclusion

Applicants' amended claims are fully supported by their Specification as filed, and
Applicants consequently respectfully request that Examiner enter the amendments. No
20 fees beyond those required to enter the National Phase are believed to be necessary for
this amendment. Should any be necessary, or should any overpayment have been made,
please charge the additional fees or refund any overpayments to deposit account number
501315.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney of record,

Gordon E. Nelson

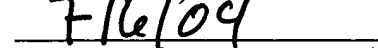
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